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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/640,035	08/16/2000	Wilfried E. Dejaeger	8626.00	3176

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EXAMINER

PAULA, CESAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

3

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/640,035

Applicant(s)

DEJAEGER, WILFRIED E.

Examiner

CESAR B PAULA

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 August 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 August 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application, and IDS filed on 8/16/2000.

This action is made Non-Final.

2. Claims 1-9 are pending in the case. Claims 1-6, and 9 are independent claims.

Drawings

3. The drawings filed on 8/16/2000 have been approved by the examiner.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 8/16/2000 has been considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer (Pat. # 6,282,511 B1, 8/28/2001, filed on 12/4/1996), in view of Oliver, D., hereinafter Oliver, "Netscape 2 Unleashed", Sams.net, 1996, pp.20-26.

Regarding independent claim 1, Mayer discloses the access, and display of the text of an HTML page (stored at a database) having hyperlinked words—*options A and B*—via a communications path, from a server over the Internet (col.1, lines 11-51, col. 2, lines 11-26, 47-67, col. 3, lines 29-40, fig. 1). Mayer fails to explicitly disclose: *ii) at least two further options C and D, when option A is selected iii) at least two further options E and F, when option B is selected*. However, Oliver teaches the display of an "Exploratorium" web page having numerous links—*options C and D*-- (fig. 2.3, 2.5). A user clicks on a "Project LINK" logo on the "Exploratorium" web page, which takes the user the "Project LINK" web page, which has clickable image links (fig 2.6, page 21, lines 26-page 25). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined Mayer, and Oliver, because Oliver teaches the benefit of following links, which can take you anywhere in the world (fig. 2.3 caption). This would also permit an user(s) to have access to the information provided by those additional links.

Moreover, Mayer discloses an audio server for the serving voice data through a telephonic path over the Internet, for rendering of the text of an HTML page having hyperlinked words—*options A and B*-- to a user of a telephonic terminal—*telephone call center* (fig.1, col.1, lines 11-51, col. 2, lines 11-26, 47-67, col. 3, lines 40-col.4, line 46). Mayer fails to explicitly disclose: *said further options C and D, when option A is selected; said further options E and F,*

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when option B is selected. However, Oliver teaches the display of an “Exploratorium” web page having numerous links—*options C and D--* (fig. 2.3, 2.5). A user clicks on a “Project LINK” logo on the “Exploratorium” web page, which takes the user the “Project LINK” web page, which has clickable image links (fig 2.6, page 21, lines 26-page 25). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined Mayer, and Oliver, because Oliver teaches the benefit of following links, which can take you anywhere in the world (fig. 2.3 caption), and Mayer teaches the benefit of allowing a user to navigate web pages using a telephone (col.2, lines 1-26, and 44-67). This would also permit an user(s) to have access to the information provided by those additional links.

Regarding claim 2, which depends on claim 1, Mayer discloses the access of a data server by a user —*remote party--* via a communications network, and display of the text of an HTML page—*visual options--* having hyperlinked words. The user selects one of the displayed hyperlinks, which produces the display of the underlying web page associated with the hyperlink. (col. 3, lines 29-40). In other words, the user chooses a navigational branch of the web page tree—*flow chart--* (root web page with branching links for displaying additional information).

Furthermore, Mayer discloses an audio server for the serving over a telephonic path, voice data for rendering of the text of an HTML page having hyperlinked words to a user of a telephonic terminal—*different remote party--* The user voices or selects one of the audio hyperlinks, which produces the audible reading of the underlying web page associated with the hyperlink (fig.1, col. 3, lines 40-col.4, line 46). In other words, the user chooses a navigational

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branch of the web page tree—*flow chart*-- (root web page with branching links for voicing additional information).

Claim 3 is directed towards a system for implementing the steps found in claim 1, and therefore is similarly rejected.

Claim 4 is directed towards a method for implementing the system found in claim 2, and therefore is similarly rejected.

Regarding independent claim 5, Mayer discloses the display of the text of an HTML page, from a data server—*web site*-- over the Internet, having hyperlinked words—*options A and B*—which are selected to access underlying information—*information IA and IB*— associated with such hyperlinks (col.1, lines 11-51, col. 2, lines 11-26, 47-67, col. 3, lines 29-40). Mayer fails to explicitly disclose: *option C, and information IC*. However, Oliver teaches the display of an “Exploratorium” web page having several links—*option C*-- (fig. 2.3, 2.5). A user clicks on a “Project LINK” logo on the “Exploratorium” web page, which takes the user to the “Project LINK” web page—*information IC*—, which has clickable image links (fig 2.6, page 21, lines 26-page 25). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined Mayer, and Oliver, because Oliver teaches the benefit of following links, which can take you anywhere in the world (fig. 2.3 caption). This would also permit an user(s) to have access to the information provided by those additional links.

Moreover, Mayer discloses an audio server—*telephonic answering system*-- for the serving over a telephonic path, voice data for voicing of the text of an HTML page having hyperlinked words—*options A and B*—which are audibly selected to access underlying information—*information IA and IB*— associated with such hyperlinks in an audible manner (fig.1, col. 3, lines 40-col.4, line 46). Mayer fails to explicitly disclose: *option C, and information C*. However, Oliver teaches the display of an “Exploratorium” web page having several links (fig. 2.3, 2.5). A user clicks on a “Project LINK” logo—*option C*-- on the “Exploratorium” web page, which takes the user to the “Project LINK” web page, which has clickable image links (fig 2.6, page 21, lines 26-page 25). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined Mayer, and Oliver, because Oliver teaches the benefit of following links, which can take you anywhere in the world (fig. 2.3 caption), and Mayer teaches the benefit of allowing a user to navigate web pages using a telephone (col.2, lines 1-26, and 44-67). This would also permit an user(s) to have access to the information provided by those additional links.

Claim 6 is directed towards a system for implementing the steps found in claim 5, and therefore is similarly rejected.

Regarding claim 7, which depends on claim 5, Mayer discloses the display of the text of an HTML page having hyperlinked words—*options A and B*—which are selected to access underlying information—*information IA and IB*— associated with such hyperlinks (col. 3, lines 29-40). Mayer fails to explicitly disclose: *some of information IA, IB, and IC contain further*

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options. However, Oliver teaches the display of an "Exploratorium" web page having several links (fig. 2.3, 2.5). A user clicks on a "Project LINK" logo on the "Exploratorium" web page, which takes the user to the "Project LINK" web page—*further option*—, which has clickable image links (fig 2.6, page 21, lines 26-page 25). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined Mayer, and Oliver, because Oliver teaches the benefit of following links, which can take you anywhere in the world (fig. 2.3 caption).

Claim 8 is directed towards a system for implementing the steps found in claim 7, and therefore is similarly rejected.

Claim 9 is directed towards a method for implementing the steps found in claim 5, and therefore is similarly rejected.

Conclusion

I. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Uppaluru (Pat. # 5,915,001), Chung (Pat. # 6,115,686), and Perrone (Pat. # 6,418,199).

II. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cesar B. Paula whose telephone number is (703) 306-5543. The

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examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached on (703) 308-5186. However, in such a case, please allow at least one business day.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this Action should be mailed to:

Director United States Patent and Trademark Office

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

- (703) 703-872-9306, (for all Formal communications intended for entry)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).



CESAR B PAULA
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2178

3/10/04